

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

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25X1SUBJECT Veterinary Services and Education/Outstanding
Veterinarian, Biologist, Bacteriologist,
Physiochemist

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1. Prior to Communist overthrow of the Bulgarian Government in September 1944, veterinary services were very well developed throughout the country. It must be borne in mind that veterinary medicine and practice, even under the pre-Communist government, were fully socialized. Consequently, veterinary medicine and services were free to all animal owners. There was no scarcity of qualified personnel. [redacted] approximately two thousand veterinarians were employed by the Bulgarian State prior to the coup d'etat. In conjunction with free service and medication, the Bulgarian Government had established a well organized network of animal clinics in the country. In my estimation, the general competence of Bulgarian veterinarians was on a parallel with the general level of Western Europe. Among Bulgaria's veterinary practitioners were several outstanding men. [See paragraph no. 5]
2. At the time the Soviets entered the country, they found that the veterinary school located at the University of Sofia was in excellent condition. Prior to the beginning of World War II this department of the University had erected new clinics, new faculty rooms, and had installed a considerable amount of new equipment.
3. In order to study for a degree in veterinary medicine at the University of Sofia a student (prior to entrance) was carefully screened as to academic capability and intellectual capacity commensurate with the rigid requirements. In order to procure a degree in veterinary medicine at the University of Sofia [there may be a veterinary school at the University of Plovdiv] a student had to engage in four years of study. Upon the completion of the four year study requirement, the student then garnered one year of practical experience under the direction of the State which assigned him to State controlled veterinary clinics. After one year of this practical work, the student was then required to successfully complete a State examination -- at which time the diploma was granted.

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4. The Bulgarian Army had a special veterinary school [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] In addition to the Army school, the various regiments of the Bulgarian Army which employed animals such as cavalry horses, also taught various veterinary courses. These courses were by and large basic in content and were designed to familiarize military personnel with general care and treatment of animals. In attempting to recall outstanding men in the fields of veterinary science [redacted] the following: 25X1

a. Professor Stefan Angeloff, [redacted] 25X1

b. (fnu) Nenkov, [redacted]

c. [redacted] the most outstanding bacteriologist in Bulgaria today /1954/ 25X1
is Professor (fnu) Markoff.

5. With reference to biology in Bulgaria, this field is taught by the faculty of natural sciences at the University of Sofia, by the agricultural faculty and by the medical faculty. The most outstanding biologist in the country until 1949 was Professor Metodi Popoff. [redacted]

6. The leading physiochemist in Bulgaria [redacted] was Professor Ivan Stransky 25X1